

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (New) A server comprising:

a content storage unit storing content;

a registration unit in which a terminal apparatus permitted to use the content is registered;

a packet transmission unit configured, upon receiving a registration request for using the content from an unregistered terminal apparatus via a network, to transmit a measuring packet to the unregistered terminal apparatus via the network;

a measured value check unit configured to receive, from the unregistered terminal apparatus, a response packet in response to the measuring packet, and configured to compare a measured value with a predetermined reference measurement value, the measured value indicating a length of time from the transmission of the measuring packet by the packet transmission unit to the receipt of the response packet by the measured value check unit;

a registration processing unit configured, (a) when the measured value is smaller than the predetermined reference measurement value, to register the unregistered terminal apparatus in the registration unit, and (b) when the measured value is larger than or equal to the predetermined reference measurement value, to cause the packet transmission unit to newly transmit the measuring packet to the unregistered terminal apparatus, and register the unregistered terminal apparatus in the registration unit when the measured value for the newly transmitted measuring packet is smaller than the predetermined reference measurement value;

a processing status storage unit storing time segments and status notification information pieces in one-to-one correspondence, the time segments being obtained by dividing a time elapsed from the packet transmission unit receiving the registration request; and

a notification unit configured, when the measured value is larger than or equal to the predetermined reference measurement value, and when the time elapsed from the packet transmission unit receiving the registration request exceeds any of the obtained time segments, to notify the terminal apparatus of a stored status notification information piece, of the stored status notification information pieces, corresponding to the obtained time segment exceeded by the time elapsed from the packet transmission unit receiving the registration request.

Claim 19 (New) The server of Claim 18, wherein the status notification information pieces are messages, each message of the messages indicating a processing status of the server.

Claim 20 (New) The server of Claim 18,

wherein the terminal apparatus stores a plurality of messages, each message of the plurality of messages indicating a processing status of the server, and stores identification information pieces indicating respective messages of the plurality of messages, and

wherein the status notification information pieces are the identification information pieces.

Claim 21(New) The server of Claim 18, wherein the registration processing unit, (a) when registering the unregistered terminal apparatus in the registration unit, sets a validity period of the registration of the unregistered terminal apparatus being registered, (b) when receiving the

registration request from the registered terminal apparatus within the set validity period, causes the packet transmission unit to transmit the measuring packet to the registered terminal apparatus, (c) when the measured value is smaller than another reference measurement value, performs extension processing to extend the set validity period, and (d) when the measured value is larger than or equal to the other reference measurement value, causes the packet transmission unit to newly transmit the measuring packet to the registered terminal apparatus and performs the extension processing to extend the set validity period when the measured value for the newly transmitted measuring packet is smaller than the other reference measurement value.

Claim 22 (New) The server of Claim 21, wherein the other reference measurement value is larger than the predetermined reference measurement value.

Claim 23 (New) The server of Claim 21, wherein the registration processing unit counts an extension count that is a number of times the extension processing has been performed, and lengthens a period of extension of the set validity period as the extension count increases.

Claim 24 (New) The server of Claim 21,
 wherein the server further comprises an idle-time management unit configured to detect an idle time when either transmission of the content or a registration check before the transmission of the content is not being performed, and
 wherein the registration processing unit performs the extension processing during the idle time.

Claim 25 (New) The server of Claim 21, wherein the registration processing unit prioritizes performing the extension processing over other processing when a remaining duration of the set validity period is less than a preset value.

Claim 26 (New) The server of Claim 18, wherein the network is a wireless network.

Claim 27 (New) The server of Claim 18 wherein, the network is a wired network.

Claim 28 (New) An apparatus registration system including:

- a server storing content; and

- an unregistered terminal apparatus for using the content,

- wherein the server comprises:

 - a content storage unit storing the content;

 - a registration unit in which a terminal apparatus permitted to use the content is registered;

 - a packet transmission unit configured, upon receiving a registration request for using the content from the unregistered terminal apparatus via a network, to transmit a measuring packet to the unregistered terminal apparatus via the network;

 - a measured value check unit configured to receive, from the unregistered terminal apparatus, a response packet in response to the measuring packet, and configured to compare a measured value with a predetermined reference measurement value, the measured value indicating a length of time from the transmission of the measuring packet by the packet transmission unit to the receipt of the response packet by the measured value check unit;

a registration processing unit configured, (a) when the measured value is smaller than the predetermined reference measurement value, to register the unregistered terminal apparatus in the registration unit, and (b) when the measured value is larger than or equal to the predetermined reference measurement value, to cause the packet transmission unit to newly transmit the measuring packet to the unregistered terminal apparatus, and register the unregistered terminal apparatus in the registration unit when the measured value for the newly transmitted measuring packet is smaller than the predetermined reference measurement value;

a processing status storage unit storing time segments and status notification information pieces in one-to-one correspondence, the time segments being obtained by dividing a time elapsed from the packet transmission unit receiving the registration request; and

a notification unit configured, when the measured value is larger than or equal to the predetermined reference measurement value, and when the time elapsed from the packet transmission unit receiving the registration request exceeds any of the obtained time segments, to notify the terminal apparatus of a stored status notification information piece, of the stored status notification information pieces, corresponding to the obtained time segment exceeded by the time elapsed from the packet transmission unit receiving the registration request, and

wherein the unregistered terminal apparatus comprises:

a communication processing unit configured to transmit the registration request to the server;

a packet communication unit configured to receive the measuring packet from the server and transmit the response packet to the server; and

a display unit configured to display a message based on the status notification information piece notified by the server.

Claim 29 (New) An apparatus registration method used in the server of Claim 18, the apparatus registration method comprising:

a packet transmission step of, upon receiving the registration request for using the content stored in the content storage unit from the unregistered terminal apparatus via the network, transmitting the measuring packet to the unregistered terminal apparatus via the network;

a measured value check step of receiving, from the unregistered terminal apparatus, the response packet in response to the measuring packet, and of comparing the measured value with the predetermined reference measurement value, the measured value indicating the length of time from the transmission of the measuring packet by the packet transmission step to the receipt of the response packet by the measured value check step;

a registration processing step of, (a) when the measured value is smaller than the predetermined reference measurement value, registering the unregistered terminal apparatus in the registration unit, and (b) when the measured value is larger than or equal to the predetermined reference measurement value, causing the packet transmission step to newly transmit the measuring packet to the unregistered terminal apparatus, and registering the unregistered terminal apparatus in the registration unit when the measured value for the newly transmitted measuring packet is smaller than the predetermined reference measurement value; and

a notification step of, when the measured value is larger than or equal to the predetermined reference measurement value, and when the time elapsed from the packet transmission step receiving the registration request exceeds any of the obtained time segments, notifying the terminal apparatus of the stored status notification information piece, of the stored

status notification information pieces, corresponding to the obtained time segment exceeded by the time elapsed from the packet transmission step receiving the registration request.

Claim 30 (New) A non-transitory computer-readable recording medium having a registration program recorded thereon, the registration program being used in the server of Claim 18,

wherein the server is a computer, and

wherein the registration program causes the computer to execute a method comprising:

a packet transmission step of, upon receiving the registration request for using the content stored in the content storage unit from the unregistered terminal apparatus via the network, transmitting the measuring packet to the unregistered terminal apparatus via the network;

a measured value check step of receiving, from the unregistered terminal apparatus, the response packet in response to the measuring packet, and of comparing the measured value with the predetermined reference measurement value, the measured value indicating the length of time from the transmission of the measuring packet by the packet transmission step to the receipt of the response packet by the measured value check step;

a registration processing step of, (a) when the measured value is smaller than the predetermined reference measurement value, registering the unregistered terminal apparatus in the registration unit, and (b) when the measured value is larger than or equal to the predetermined reference measurement value, causing the packet transmission step to newly transmit the measuring packet to the unregistered terminal apparatus, and registering the unregistered terminal apparatus in the registration unit when the measured value for the newly

transmitted measuring packet is smaller than the predetermined reference measurement value;
and

a notification step of, when the measured value is larger than or equal to the predetermined reference measurement value, and when the time elapsed from the packet transmission step receiving the registration request exceeds any of the obtained time segments, notifying the terminal apparatus of the stored status notification information piece, of the stored status notification information pieces, corresponding to the obtained time segment exceeded by the time elapsed from the packet transmission step receiving the registration request.